

The Avalanche

O. PALMER, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1891.

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POLITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

State Convention.

A Republican State Convention to nominate a Justice of the Supreme Court in place of John V. Champlin, and two Justices of the University in place of Charles J. Willett and Arthur M. Clark, and for the transaction of other business, will be held at Assembly Hall, in the city of Jackson, on Tuesday, February 24, 1891, at 11 o'clock A. M.

In accordance with a resolution adopted at Grand Rapids May 10, 1876, every county will be entitled to one delegate for each 500 of the total vote cast for Governor at the last election (November, 1890), and one additional delegate for every fraction amounting to 250, but each organized county will be entitled to at least one delegate.

Under a resolution of 1888 no delegate will be entitled to a seat in the convention who does not reside in the county he proposes to represent.

In compliance with a resolution adopted in Detroit, June 23, 1880, the Secretary of each county convention is requested to forward to the Secretary of the Central Committee, (Room 6 Butler Block, Detroit), by the earliest mail, after the delegates are chosen, a certified list of such delegates as are entitled to seats in the State Convention from their respective counties.

JAMES McMILLAN,
WILLIAM P. BATES, CHAIRMAN,
Secretary.

In accordance with the above The republican electors of Crawford county will meet in convention, by delegates from the several townships, as heretofore, on Wednesday, Feb. 18, at the Court house in Grayling, at two o'clock P. M. for the purpose of electing a delegate to the state convention, and for such other business as may properly be presented to the convention.

O. PALMER,
W. A. MASTERS, CHAIRMAN, COM.
Secretary.

Secretary Windom.

The sudden death of Secretary Windom is mourned by the entire nation, which has lost one of its greatest men, and perhaps the most able financier of the age. Besides this, in every place in life to which he has been called, whether public or private, no breath of suspicion or wrong purpose has ever attached to his name. His reputation is an enviable one, and the pen of future historians will write of him as a grand example of a man, a patriot and statesman.

He was a man of great ability and of spotless character and reputation. —*Niles Sun.*

His long career in public life has been honored, and his ability as a financier was well known. —*Seignior News.*

Mr. Windom has never been a leader in the highest and best meaning of that word. But he had a great amount of perseverance and enjoyed a great degree of popularity. —*Grand Rapids Democrat.*

It is one of the misfortunes of humanity that men so capable, so useful, and so ripe in the wisdom of experience and judgment, must be stricken down, before the meridian of usefulness and at the summit of their intellectual powers. But such is the irony of fate. —*Grand Rapids Eagle.*

In his department he was able and acted with that deliberation and conservatism that marks a well balanced rather than a brilliant mind. In consequence the moored interests of the country put confidence in his financial management, and the President leaned upon him trustfully. —*Grand Rapids Press.*

The Washington Star says there is a very general impression that Mr. McKinley will succeed Mr. Windom as Secretary of the Treasury.

Gov. Patterson, of Pennsylvania, has vetoed the joint resolution of the legislature instructing the United States senators from that state to support the federal election bill.

The last unwilling Eastern democrats have been forced to acknowledge that "Free Trade, Free Silver and Free Whisky" will be the democratic watchword in 1892. —*Boston Journal.*

How protection works. The moral is plain, agriculture and manufactures have increased under protection. Our maritime trade has decreased since we withdrew protection from it. —*Inter Ocean.*

If Mr. Cleveland reads the papers in these days he will be likely to have gradually forced upon him the conviction that when a man has been a conscientious it is better for him not to boast of it. —*New York Press.*

Hill has kicked himself clean out of the presidential race by grabbing an office for which he is not fitted, and refusing to give it to the best equipped man in this or any other section of the country. —*N. Y. Herald.*

Wheat touched the dollar point at St. Louis, last Thursday, causing great excitement among dealers and entailing heavy losses.

The total sales of wool on the Boston market, last week, were 4,605,900 pounds. The demand continues good at steady prices.

The N. Y. Press says: "There is no necessity for us to sit up nights worrying over our export trade. The exporting of domestic provisions have increased from \$97,884,423, the average of five years from 1885 to 1889, to \$136,264,506 in 1890, an increase of 40 per cent."

The Detroit Tribune says: "John J. Ingalls' speech in the senate didn't re-elect him, but it set him down on the right side of two or three great public questions." This, like everything else that has appeared in the Tribune of late, seems to have been taken from the Detroit Evening News.

Congressman Wheeler says that if the shipping subsidy bill becomes a law the Saginaw steamship company will at once build two additional steamers for the Atlantic coast coal trade. In the event of a failure of the measure no more boats will be put under contract. —*Detroit Journal.*

The Detroit Journal says: "Jay Russell Fisher has left the employ of the Michigan stove works and resumed reportorial work on the Tribune-News." That accounts for the stove polish brilliancy of that paper for the last two weeks.

The Free-Traders say: "That under protection exports decline and we have no show in the markets of the world." And yet the value of domestic exports of cattle has increased from \$12,246,455, the average of five years, from 1885 to 1889, to \$31,261,131 in 1890, or an increase of 155 per cent. —*N. Y. Press.*

The Detroit Journal says: "R. B. Glatt has left the city editorship of the Bay City Press to become editorial writer on the Tribune-News." His editorials resemble those of the Times more than other publication in Bay City, and we cannot make the usual quotation: "That Bay City's loss is Detroit's gain."

Nearly all the leaf-tobacco and general merchandise was removed from the bonded warehouses at New York, Saturday, under the old tariff law. There will now be an increased demand for domestic tobacco, and the planters will increase their acreage devoted to this crop, and foreign planters will grow less.

Senator Ingalls was tendered the position of editor in chief of the Detroit Tribune, but declined it. He will accept an offer of \$15,000 for 12 lectures to be delivered within 12 months after the adjournment of congress. —*Bay City Times.*

R. G. Dunn & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: "Business continues unprecedented in volume and satisfactory in character. Measured by the clearing house returns, trade exceeds that of a year ago by about 25 per cent in amount and that means the volume of business is larger than in any year at this season. The tone in commercial circles throughout the country is hopeful and money markets are now comparatively easy at nearly all points. Business failures occurring throughout the country during the last seven days number 320 as compared with 880 last week. For the corresponding week of last year the figures were 291."

Everybody in this busy age appreciates the value of current history and tries his best to keep in touch with recent events, with those things which are happening under his own nose and which are the results of the latest activity and thought. The newspaper strives to supply this popular need for the general current intelligence, but has often to be hastily swallowed between sips of coffee at the break of day and sips of tea in the evening. The occupied man of affairs has to content himself with a hasty glimpse at the days news, frequently losing the connection of events and finding himself unable to sum up the real value of the various world happenings. The Detroit Evening News has realized this difficulty and with characteristic enterprise has sought to remedy it. There is now in the press a handsome magazine, "The Quarterly Register of Current Events," in which the News has digested this mass of intelligence for its 45,000 readers and for all others who certainly will eagerly avail themselves of the valuable volume. This first number, which is promised early in February, contains a digest of the world's history for 1890, a compact but appreciative epitome of all the essential events of the entire globe during the year just ended. Those who have read their daily papers carefully will obtain in this latest of the News public benefits their first clear insight into the really important events of the year. The magazine will ornament any bookshelf, and those who secure the various issues quarterly, will have in their library an exact, carefully condensed and yet appreciative history of the day.

New Industries in the West.

Melville D. Landon (Eli Perkins), having just returned from Dakota, Nebraska, and Minnesota, was asked if there were any new industries being established in the West on account of the new tariff.

"Yes," he said, "there are three great Western industries being established which will keep \$50,000,000 in this country every year."

"What are they?"

First, the Grand Island, Nebraska, beet sugar industry is a wonderful success. They are now turning out there 300 barrels of pure white beet sugar a day. The plant cost \$500,000, and was purchased in Germany. The farmers all made money last year, raising beets in the Platte Valley, and next year millions of acres in that valley and in the Jim River Valley, Dak., will go into the beet sugar industry. They are putting up other beet sugar factories in Lincoln and Norfolk, Neb., Sioux City, Iowa, and in Aberdeen, Dak. I believe the Platte and Jim River valleys will supply all the white sugar the country will want in less than five years. Germany is making her own sugar, and the percentage of sugar in her beets is 5 per cent, less than in the Nebraska beets.

"And the next industry?"

"It is the new impetus given by the tariff to flax raising and manufacturing. We have always thrown away our flax fibre. Now Minnesota capital and Glasgow skill are building a large flax factory in Minneapolis. Two small flax factories for making towels, sheets and table cloths are being operated in northern Iowa. Thousands of farmers are putting wheat land into flax, and linen making is becoming an American industry. We have been spending \$20,000,000 annually in Ireland, France and Germany for linen, and throwing our flax away after making linseed oil out of the seed. Now the tariff on oil and linen makes the industry profitable here."

"What about wool in the Northwest?"

"The whole country from Bismark to Mendon is going into it. Millions of acres of wheat land will go into sheep this year. On the train coming down from Fargo were 100 horses which never did anything but work in wheat fields. They were going to Ohio to be changed for sheep. Southdowns, good for food and wool."

"Why, we will not have this surplus of 70,000,000 bushels of wheat to sell in England at a dollar a bushel. Within the next two years we will eat up all our surplus wheat, and then it will go to a dollar a bushel in Dakota, a price that it is worth for food, and the American farmer will be on top again. Good times are coming for the farmer, I can see it. Land is stiffening up all over the West. The tariff of 20 cents a bushel will keep back ten million bushels of Manitoba wheat made on dollar-an-acre land, and make it go out by Quebec."

"But there is more public land?"

"No, not wheat land nor corn land. It is about all taken. What is left is beyond the rain belt. The farmer has been for fifteen years the under dog in the fight. Now he is coming to the front. He begins to feel rich already. The trade has turned. Farming is paying better and better every day. It has been this 70,000,000 bushels of surplus wheat, which had to go to sixty cents in Dakota before it could displace the cheap India wheat in England, which has kept the farmer poor. "Beside this," continued Mr. Landon, "thousands of new industries are springing up to employ more labor—push factories at Catasqua and in others towns in Pennsylvania, plate glass factories in Butler and all over the natural gas regions, silk factories at Homestead and Scranton, and more potteries in Trenton and East-Liverpool. These laborers will be well paid, and they will eat more meat and flour than idle men. I say, give this abused and misunderstood tariff a trial!"

The editors of the big free trade newspapers, of which the New York Herald is the most prominent, should try to make their editorial and news columns come nearer together, if they wish to make any converts. The other day the Herald printed a half column editorial about the McKinley tariff law having shut us out from the products of the world, and right on the next page was a news item referring to the Spring trades among the New York merchants, which stated that the importations were much larger than ever before and that business was booming. It is nonsense for any paper to misrepresent the new tariff law. If by the time the Presidential election rolls around the law shall have proved itself had the republican party will have to shoulder the blame, just as it expects to be credited with the benefits of the law.

The German government has again refused to accept a double standard currency, and expressed its opinion that the time would soon come when the trading nations of the world would agree upon a single standard, with gold for its basis. This is interesting and significant, in view of the present silver agitation in this country. Can America maintain a double standard against the combined commercial world? That is the real question, and our wishes and hopes should not be allowed to influence us in answering it. If we can do it, the sooner we have free and unlimited silver coinage the better; if we can't do it, we had better go slow in making the attempt.

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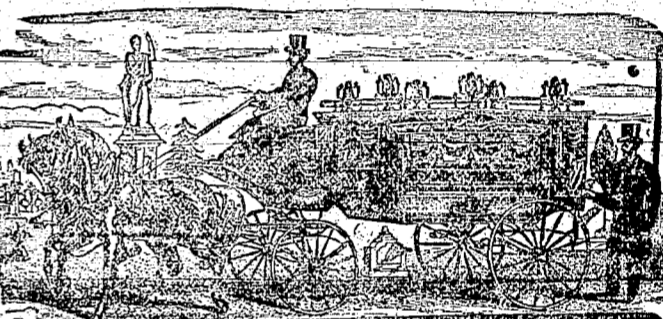
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